

NOTE

Quedius molochinus (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae) Newly Recorded in the Maritime Provinces of Canada

Majka and Smetana (2007) recently recorded *Quedius fuliginosus* (Gravenhorst, 1802) as new in North America from specimens collected in Nova Scotia. They also newly recorded *Quedius curtipennis* Bernhauer, 1908 from Nova Scotia and *Quedius mesomelinus* (Marsham, 1802) from New Brunswick. Although Majka and Smetana (2007) wrote that *Q. curtipennis* was newly reported in eastern North America, there is one previous specimen collected by D.S. Chandler in 1983 in New Hampshire (Smetana 1990). Other introduced species in the genus include *Quedius fulgidus* (Fabricius, 1793), widely distributed in the United States and in southwestern British Columbia and Manitoba (Smetana 1971); *Quedius cinctus* (Paykull, 1790), found in Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, and Washington (Smetana 1971, 1990); and *Quedius cruentus* (Olivier, 1794) reported by Gusarov (2001) from New York.

Smetana (1965, 1971) also reported the Palearctic *Quedius molochinus* (Gravenhorst, 1806) from three specimens collected by C.H. Lindroth in 1949 in St. John's, Newfoundland. Smetana (1973, 1976, 1981) later reported the species from the Québec City area, and Smetana (1981, 1990) reported further records from Newfoundland (chiefly in the vicinity of St. John's, but also from Harricott at the head of St. Mary's Bay, approximately 75 km away), concluding that the species was well-established on the Avalon Peninsula. To date, *Q. molochinus* has only been known in North America from these two areas, largely restricted to sites around the original ports of entry. Recently speci-

mens of *Q. molochinus* were collected in Nova Scotia (Kings County, Sheffield Mills, 25.ix.2002, Ken Neil, pitfall trap, Nova Scotia Museum collection) and Prince Edward Island (Queens County, Harrington, 7.ix.2006, C. Noronha, potato field, pitfall trap, Nova Scotia Museum collection) that now establish the presence of this species in the Maritime Provinces (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island). These records clearly represent separate introduction events from those in Newfoundland and Québec.

Majka and Smetana (2007) pointed out that there are a large number of introduced, Palearctic staphylinids in the region (16% of Nova Scotia's rove beetle fauna) and Klimaszewski et al. (2007) added records of six additional species to the Maritime fauna. Majka and Smetana (2007) highlighted the nautical history of the region and how it has contributed to the large number of introduced Coleoptera. Lindroth (1957) collected *Q. molochinus* at the Appledore rock quarry on the River Torridge in North Devon, England – one of eight sites investigated by him as principal sources of dry ballast destined for Atlantic Canadian ports. Both sites in the Maritime Provinces where *Q. molochinus* has been found are in agricultural areas with many synanthropic environments, not far from seaports, and have substantial suites of introduced beetles. Smetana (1971) noted that all the specimens from Newfoundland were found on land affected by cultivation. *Quedius molochinus* thus joins the large spectrum of introduced rove beetles found in the Maritime Provinces.

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